5

10

15

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A binarizing device operates for controlling a slice level relative to a DC level of a reproduced signal in response to a slice level control signal to generate a controlling-resultant slice level, and for comparing the reproduced signal with the controlling-resultant slice level to convert the reproduced signal into a binary signal. A signal generating device operates for generating the slice level control signal in response to the binary signal. An offset detecting device operates for detecting an offset in a modulation-resultant-code pattern in response to the binary signal, and for generating code pattern offset information in response to the detected offset. An offset-responsive controlling device operates for implementing one of (1) changing a response characteristic of a loop formed by the binarizing device and the signal generating device and (2) suspending the slice level control by the binarizing device in response to the code pattern offset information.